

FEDERAL RAID ON BUCKET SHOPS

Uncle Sam Taps Western Union Wires and Closes Bogus Exchange.

NABS HEADS OF 250 SHOPS

"Fast Wire From a Stock Exchange House" Figures at Boggs & Co.'s.

The Two Celias, Who Backed Jersey City's "Standard Stock and Grain Dealers," Surrender—Place Is Closed—Hint That a New York Legislator Is Interested in the Boggs Guild, With Lee Mayer the Bookmaker and Frenser, Who Killed Myles McDonnell—Baltimore Loses W. B. Price & Co. to the Police—30 Men Indicted for Conspiracy to Violate Federal Law—Trials to Be in Washington.

The Department of Justice, which has been investigating complaints against a chain of bucket shops and tapping the telegraph wires of the said bucket shop to get the evidence, sent the agents of its Bureau of Investigation, the new secret service, out raiding yesterday morning in a campaign which is intended to wipe the business out. The raiders were armed with indictments for thirty men, all members or correspondents of three firms that the Government believes are run by the heads of the business. The raids were planned to take place simultaneously in New York, Philadelphia, Jersey City, Baltimore, Cincinnati and St. Louis, but some of the bucket shop men got wind of what was coming, possibly by means of anticipatory publication of it, and in one instance at least had moved out before the officers arrived.

In this city the raid was on E. S. Boggs & Co., 17 Broadway, in Baltimore on W. B. Price & Co., and in Jersey City on the Standard Stock and Grain Dealers. The "Consolidated Stock Exchange" of Philadelphia, run as a kind of clearing house by which the bucket shops could evade the State laws, was also closed up. These concerns maintained 250 buckets; shops all over the country and did an enormous business.

UNCLE SAM TAPS WESTERN UNION WIRERO. In order to get evidence of the orders to buy and sell received by the three big bucket shops, as compared with the orders actually transmitted to the bogus exchange in Philadelphia, the Government secured the services of expert telegraph operators and tapped the wires leading to the bucket shops from

their branch offices and to the Philadelphia exchange, and for days listened to and made a complete record of everything which passed over the wires. The Western Union Telegraph Company, from which the three concerns lease wires at an annual rental for each firm of about \$100,000, was not informed of the liberties taken with its service.

The Government wire tappers learned, according to one of the agents, that while Boggs & Co. did a business of from 20,000 to 50,000 shares a day, mostly in ten share lots, not more than 100 and usually less than twenty orders were sent daily to the "exchange," and that ratio of executions to orders received held about the same for the other firms. But the representatives of the three concerns on the bogus exchange could exchange slips purporting to show transactions to any amount.

The investigators found that in the main office of each of the three companies eight to twenty telegraph operators were working continuously receiving business from the branch offices. No orders were taken directly at the three main offices—only by wire.

SUSPICIOUS FAST PRIVATE WIRE.
While all stock quotations were received in the many branch offices by the ticker and then placed on the blackboard, each main office had what was called a "fast private wire from a large New York Stock Exchange house," whatever it really was.

Exchange house, "wherever it really was. This wire, says the agent of the Department of Justice, beat the ticker by about fifteen minutes and its story was privately flashed to the manager of each branch so that he knew long before his customers did which way stocks were breaking. Then if a big order came in that was going to hit the bucket shop men hard it was found that it couldn't be executed. In cases where delivery of stock was demanded, the stock was secured, sometimes

marked the break was secured, according to the Government officials, through the same house that gave service for the "fast wire." As the Government soon figured it out the chances were about 200 to 1 against a man who started to buck the game getting out without losing his whole stake.

At Boggs & Co's offices in this city the raiding was done by Detectives McConville and Nelson for the reason that Agent Victor P. Scarboro of the Bureau of Investigation was empowered to make arrests only, while it was held that the local police

could seize any books and papers that would be useful as evidence. The raiders didn't find the books and papers, and it was said that everything of the kind had been sent to Philadelphia, where the Consolidated Stock Exchange, the bucket shop clearing house, has its headquarters.

which also were raided yesterday. Three members of Boggs & Co. were found watching the ticker and were taken to the Federal Building under arrest. They were Oliver J. Robinson, Leo Mayer, once a bookmaker, and Richard E. Pressman,
